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ROYTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL INTERIM
REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Sanitary Inspector
for the Year

1943

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ROYTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL INTERIM
REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
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Sanitary Inspector
for the Year
1943

ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council 1943-44:

Councillor G. HASTY, J.P.

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1943-44.

Councillor A. Cocker, Chairman.

Councillor H. Perkins, Vice-Chairman.

Councillor A. Barker,

Councillor W. Butterfield.

Councillor W. Downie.

Councillor F. Ford.

Councillor G. Hasty, J.P.

Councillor A. Howard.

Councillor H. Howarth.

Councillor T. Hudson.

Councillor T. H. Lowe.

Councillor J. Shepherd.

Councillor J. W. Smethurst, J.P.

Councillor J. Smethurst, J.P.

Councillor I. Lumb.

Clerk of the Council:

A. Donald Ogden, Esq.

Acting Medical Officer of Health:

Hedley Boardman, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

E. Dunsmore, M.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk:

Mrs. I. Leader.

**INTERIM REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1943.**

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ROYTON.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration a further Interim Report which has been prepared according to the instructions of the Minister of Health, upon the health of the district during the year ending 31st December, 1943.

I am grateful to the Sanitary Inspector for his co-operation and assistance.

To the Clerk, the Surveyor and all other Officials, I offer my sincere thanks for their willing assistance and effective co-operation.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

HEDLEY BOARDMAN,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT, 1943.

Table 1.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres	2,149
Population (Census 1931)	16,689
Registrar-General's Estimated resident population 1943 ...	13,690
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	4,370
End of 1943, according to the Rate books.....	4,781
Rateable value £81,682.	
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£317.

Table II—Vital Statistics, 1943.

Live Births	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	203	84	119
Illegitimate	7	2	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	210	86	124
Still Births	13	7	6
Deaths (all ages)	225	108	117

Table III—Causes of Deaths during 1943.

	MALES	FEMALES
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0
3. Scarlet Fever	0	0
4. Whooping Cough	0	1
5. Diphtheria	1	0
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	7	4
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	0
8. Syphilitic Diseases	0	0
9. Influenza	3	4
10. Measles	0	0
11. Ac : polio-myel : and polio-enceph :	0	0
12. Ac : inf : enceph :	0	0
13. Cancer of b : cav : and oesoph (m) } uterus (f) }	0	5
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	4
15. Cancer of Breast	0	2
16. Cancer of all other sites	7	11
17. Diabetes	1	3
18. Intracranial vasc : lesions	9	16
19. Heart Disease	37	26
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	1
21. Bronchitis	10	4
22. Pneumonia	5	2
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	1
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	0	0
26. Appendicitis	0	0
27. Other Digestive Diseases	4	4
28. Nephritis	2	5
29. Puer : & post-abortion : sepsis	0	1
30. Other Maternal causes	0	1
31. Premature Birth	1	1
32. Con: Mal: Birth Inj: Infant: Dis:	3	3
33. Suicide	2	0
34. Road Traffic Accidents	1	0
35. Other violent causes	1	4
36. All other causes	8	12
All causes ...	108	117

Table IV.—Deaths classified in Age Groups.

Under one year	12
1 — 2 years	1
2 — 5 „	4
5 — 15 „	2
15 — 25 „	4
25 — 45 „	17
45 — 65 „	73
65 — 75 „	72
75 years and upwards...	40
<hr/>	
Total ...	225

Table V.—Infantile Deaths and Causes.

Under one year.

CAUSES OF DEATH				Under 1 Week	1 and under 2 weeks	2 and under 3 weeks	3 and under 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 and under 3 months	3 and under 6 months	6 and under 9 months	9 and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	3
Congenital Debility...	...	}		3	2	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6
Premature Birth ...	...											
Malformations etc. ...	...											
Other Violence ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	..	...	3
Total ...				4	2	1	...	7	2	3	...	...	12

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table VI — Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1943.

DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED.															Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to the District.
	Total Cases at all ages.	YEARS												Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital from Home	
		Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	(a) 86	1	1	5	3	16	43	12	4	1	..	..	..	..	45	(d) ..
Diphtheria(including Membranous Group).	8	..	..	..	1	1	2	4	1	..	..	..	..	1	8	1
Measles	77	7	11	13	17	18	9	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough ...	54	7	5	5	16	10	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	3	1	..
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	1
Chicken Pox	56	1	2	3	4	11	29	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Totals ...	287	16	19	26	40	56	94	22	6	4	1	2	1	5	56	2

Table VII.—DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children immunised in 1943.

Under 5 years	...	258
Ages 5 to 15 years		116
		<hr/>
Total		374
		<hr/>

Percentage of children immunised on December 31st, 1943

Ages 1 to 5 years	.....	59%
Ages 5 to 15 years	.....	54%

Table VIII.—Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1943.

Age Periods.				NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
				Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years											
0— 1	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1— 5	...	...		...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	...		...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
15—20	...	...		1	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
20—25	...	...		1	3	...	2	1	1	...	...
25—35	...	...		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
35—45	...	...		...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
45—55	...	...		1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
55—65	...	...		3	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
65 and upwards				1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals				9	8	2	5	7	4	1	...
				17		7		11		1	

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS 1940-42.

These require particulars of all persons of certain specified age groups whose names are, or have been, on the Tuberculosis Register to be furnished to the Ministry of Labour. This information is made available to the Medical Boards examining candidates for enlistment in His Majesty's Forces.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance Facilities and Hospital Arrangements—

There has been no change during the year in these arrangements.

Child Welfare Centre:—

Clinics are held weekly on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons at the village school.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Dr. Kershaw, Dental Surgeon to the Lancashire County Council, has kindly given advice and treatment to many babies and expectant mothers attending the Child Welfare Centre.

1,947 children were inspected and 1,409 found to require treatment.

EMERGENCY SUPPLY OF ANTI-TOXIN.

Diphtheria anti-toxin serum is kept at the Police Station and supplied in cases of emergency to Medical Practitioners in the District upon request at any time.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Arrangements for biological, bacteriological, and chemical examinations exist with the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

List of Adoptive Acts relating to Public Health in force in the district with date of adoption.

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890
(From 1st October, 1891)
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890
(From 1st October, 1891)
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907
(From 16th January, 1914)

Part (2) Streets and Buildings
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

Part (4) Infectious Diseases
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

Part (6) Recreation Grounds.

The Public Health Act, 1925
(From 1st March, 1926)

Part (2) Streets and Buildings
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

**THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1943.**

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I again have the honour to submit my annual report relating to the sanitary circumstances of the area and the progress made during 1943.

An increased number of appeals to the Health Department for assistance in securing the remedy of dampness and defects in dwelling-houses was received during the year, but with the co-operation of the local property repairers repairs were effected without serious delay.

The energetic efforts which were made during the year to improve the quality of the Milk Supply were well rewarded. The reports on samples submitted for bacteriological examination and biological tests showed a great improvement as will be seen from the body of the report.

May I express to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, and other Officials my thanks for their continued help and co-operation throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. DUNSMORE,

Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION 1.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(1) Water Supply.

The piped water supply of the Oldham County Borough Council covers the greater part of the district of Royton. This piped supply is subject to chlorination.

(2) Drainage and Sewerage.

There was no important extension of sewerage during the year.

(3) Rivers and Streams.

Regular inspections were made and cleansing carried out as required. The foul drainage from two farms and one large house previously draining into streams were connected to the public sewer.

(4) Sanitary Accommodation.

The following table gives details of the sanitary accommodation in the district at the end of 1943.

Fresh Water Closets	3931	Cesspools	nil
Waste Water Closets	931	Dustbins	4810
Privy Middens	nil	Dry Ashpits	14
Pail Closets	35		

Conversions—One waste water closet was converted to a fresh water closet.

(5) Public Cleansing.

The method of disposal continued to be that known as the biological or controlled system of tipping.

Controlled tipping continues in Royton Park to serve the double purpose of refuse disposal and of levelling up the playground.

Collecting motor vehicles numbered 2 full-time and 1 part-time.

The number of loads collected per week averaged 52, weighing approximately 83 tons 4 cwts., giving a total figure for the year ended December 31st, 1943, of 4,326 tons collected.

A stock of dustbins is kept in the Town's Yard for sale to owners wishing to purchase. Good use was made of the facilities provided.

(6) Sanitary Inspections during 1943 (including Housing).

During the course of the year the following nuisances or defects which were reported upon month by month to the Health Committee were dealt with. Out of a total of 336 nuisances listed in the Inspector's Journal, 335 were remedied in a satisfactory manner within the year.

They may be summarised as follows:—

Blocked drains	58
Defective drains and pedestals, etc.....	20
Defective ash receptacles	156
Defective downspouts and gutters	16
Dampness and flooding	12
Accumulations	3
Dirty houses	1
Other housing defects	54
Burst water pipes	5
Miscellaneous	11

Total 336

To secure the remedy of these defects, 197 letters, 131 formal notices and 26 statutory notices were served upon owners or agents in addition to numerous interviews.

(7) Shops and Offices.

No action was taken during 1943 to enforce the provisions of the shops Act, 1934, relating to the ventilation and temperature of shops, etc., and to sanitary conveniences.

Likewise, no action under the Public Health Act, 1936, was taken relating to conditions in Offices, i.e., ventilation, sanitary conveniences, etc.

(8) Camping Sites (other than Military).

No sites were used for this purpose for any extended period, making the issue of licences under the Public Health Act, 1936, unnecessary.

(9) Smoke Abatement.

The provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, were suspended during the year due to wartime conditions.

(10) Swimming Baths.

The public swimming baths in the centre of the district continued to be well patronised. The filtered and chlorinated water was tested at frequent intervals for the determination of residual chlorine.

(11) Eradication of Vermin.

Advice was given by the writer to tenants. During the year eight verminous premises were disinfected at the owner's expense.

(12) Schools.

These were visited and reports on three inspections relating to unsanitary conditions were passed to the appropriate authority for attention.

(13) Offensive Trades.

None of these specified trades exist in the area.

(14) Factories Act, 1937.

(a) Factories (including factory bakehouses).

At the end of the year the number of factories in the district was 108. Of this number 88 were factories with mechanical power, and 20 were factories without mechanical power.

Sixty-five inspections were made.

In thirty-three instances defects or non-compliance with the regulations were noted. There were mainly of a structural character and relate chiefly to conveniences not being conveniently accessible to all persons while employed at the factory. The firms concerned have been acquainted by letter of the requirements with which it is expected they will comply when circumstances permit.

(b) Bakehouse Provisions.

At the end of the year the bakehouses in the district numbered 40. Of this number 27 were entered in the register under factory bakehouses. Forty-five visits were made. They were generally well kept and complied with special provisions of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, Sec. 156 and 157, relating to bakehouses which are incorporated in the Factories Act, 1937.

One basement bakehouse in use in the district is subject to license by the Urban District Council and to review each successive fifth year.

(15) Common Lodging-Houses.

The two common lodging-houses received regular visits and were kept in good repair.

(16) Tents, Vans and Sheds, etc.

No action required during 1943.

(17) Underground Sleeping Rooms.

Housing Act, 1936, Sec 12(2).

Two exist and will be dealt with as soon as housing conditions permit.

SECTION 2.

HOUSING.

(1) Statistics for the Year 1943.

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) | nil |
| (1) By the Local Authority (completed) | nil |
| (2) By other Local Authorities | nil |
| (3) By other bodies or persons | nil |
| (b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts:— | |
| (1) By the Local Authority (completed)..... | nil |
| (2) By other bodies or persons | nil |

Housing Act 1936.

Preliminary Survey—Post War Housing:—

496 houses were listed for early inspection, including 112 for attention in the first year's programme.

(2) Overcrowding.

The position in this respect was not exactly known, but could not be considered serious.

At the end of 1943 only four addresses remained on the list of legally overcrowded houses, but only a survey of the district would reveal the true position.

(3) Clearance and Improvement Areas.

No areas dealt with.

SECTION 3.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(1) Milk Supply.

Ninety Inspections were made under the Milk and Dairies Regulations at the twenty-two dairy farms where approximately 320 cows are housed.

At one farm a new dairy was built, the shippon remodelled and the premises drained to the public sewer. Repairs, improvements and re-drainage work were carried out at other farms at an estimated cost of £98.

Seventy two milk purveyors, including local cowkeepers are registered to deliver milk in the area.

(1) Tuberculous Milk--

Number of samples submitted for biological test 39.

Result—Negative 38. Positive 1.

The positive result was reported to the Lancashire County Council for further investigation and action.

(2) Bacteriological Examinations—

Number of Samples—32.

Result—Satisfactory 27. Unsatisfactory 5.

The five samples classed "unsatisfactory" failed to pass a standard of not more than 200,000 bacteria per c.c. and no coliform bacilli in 1/100 c.c. Of those five samples three were from local dairymen.

The Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.
Supplementary Licenses Granted.

Tuberculin Tested	nil
Accredited	1
Pasteurised	2

(2) Meat and Other Foods.

During the year 132 visits were made to butchers' shops, bakehouses, and other food premises.

Ten slaughterhouses were licensed, but the slaughtering of animals for consumption in Royton continued to be controlled and executed at Oldham. Slaughtering in local slaughterhouses ceased on 14th January, 1940.

A total weight of over 2 cwts. of meat and other food-stuffs were condemned during the year. This figure does not include the work of inspection at Government Buffer Depots. details of which are not included in this report.

No legal proceedings were taken.

No case of food poisoning was notified.

(3) Adulteration, etc.

The County Sanitary Officer kindly supplied the information that fifteen milk samples were taken and all proved genuine, also two samples of other articles.

Sampling under the Food and Drugs Act is carried out by Officers of the Lancashire County Council with my active co-operation and assistance.

SECTION 4.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Of the infectious diseases notified, 94 cases were investigated, and following recovery or removal to hospital, 308 rooms in 90 houses were disinfected with formaldehyde. 15 sets of bedding were steam disinfected at the Oldham County Borough disinfecting station.

